



NUMBER 120

NOVEMBER 29, 1941

NEWS-KEY

Goebbels Agent in New York City	page 1
Scheffer's Espionage and Sabotage Record	" 2
Nazi Buchko Departs	" 3
Rao Investigation	" 4

2nd St., New York
by Hill 5-0688-9

d

ert E. Kahn
rial Consultants
f. F. L. Schuman
and Stowe
ndrik van Loon
the Williams

Number 120

November 29, 1941

NAZI PAUL SCHEFFER NOW ACTIVE IN NEW YORK CITY

Exposed by Soviets as German Spy and Sabotage Agent,
Scheffer Today Works for Dr. Goebbels in U. S.

The Hour learns that Paul Scheffer, the Nazi journalist who was forced to leave the Soviet Union because of his espionage and sabotage work in that country, is now making his headquarters in New York City.

When interviewed by us, Herr Scheffer somewhat reluctantly explained that he is acting in this country as a "special correspondent" for Das Reich. This Nazi weekly is the official publication of the Propaganda Ministry of the Third Reich. It features editorials written by Dr. Paul Joseph Goebbels, who used its columns on November 16 to release his latest violent proclamation against the Jews.

Dr. Goebbels' hirelings have various duties to perform. The work of the Propaganda Ministry is today inseparably linked with that of the Nazi Foreign Office, the Gestapo and the Military Intelligence. In fact, Dr. Goebbels' Ministry has its own espionage branch; it is called the Counter-Action (Abwehr) Department; and its function is to coordinate propaganda and espionage activities in foreign countries. There is reason to believe that Scheffer's job in the U.S. is not confined to journalism.

Scheffer's Career

In the days of the Weimer Republic, Paul Scheffer was known as a "liberal" journalist on the Berliner Tageblatt. When Hitler came to power, Herr Scheffer was one of the first newspapermen to slip beneath the protective wing of the Nazis. He prospered under the new regime, which obviously held his services in high regard. On November 15, 1936, the late William E. Dodd, then Ambassador to Germany, wrote in his diary this significant notation concerning Paul Scheffer:

"The Argentine Minister said, further, that Paul Scheffer of the Berliner Tageblatt, who had been visiting Latin American representatives here, spent an hour with them. Scheffer had represented the Foreign Office, he thought, and perhaps the Propaganda Ministry. He [Scheffer] criticized the whole American program in Latin America, said it was a renewal of the Monroe Doctrine in its former aggressive shape and that Roosevelt had no right to influence South American policy. ... I have been watchful of this Scheffer who was a Social Democrat a few years ago, was several years in the United States as correspondent for the German free press and is now a good Nazi."

(More)

The contents of The Hour are not copyrighted and may be freely reprinted

Moscow Revelations

A year and a half after Dr. Dodd had referred in his diary to the Argentine Minister's and his own misgivings about Scheffer, sensational disclosures concerning the German newspaperman were made in the Soviet Union. Twenty-one Soviet citizens were being tried in Moscow, before the Military Collegium of the Supreme Court of the U.S.S.R., "on charges of treason to the country, espionage, committing acts of diversion, terrorism, wrecking, undermining the military power of the U.S.S.R. ..." Among the accused was Mikhail Alexandrovich Chernov, former People's Commissariat of Trade of the Ukraine. He testified before the Military Collegium on March 2, 1938. After admitting he had acted as a spy in the pay of the German Intelligence Service, Chernov revealed that one of the German agents with whom he had worked and from whom he had received instructions was "Paul Scheffer, correspondent of the German Berliner Tageblatt." In describing his first meeting with Scheffer, Chernov told how he had been advised to expect a visit from the German journalist, who was coming "to get some information." Chernov's testimony, as published in the verbatim report of the court proceedings, continued as follows:

"Shortly after, Scheffer did come to see me and said that he had been sent by Colonel Oberhaus [a German Intelligence officer]. He gave the password 'Reinhold.' That was my pseudonym as a German spy. I asked Scheffer what Colonel Oberhaus wanted. On that occasion he demanded information on the internal affairs of the Party, on the state of work among the Rights and Trotskyites, and on conditions in the rural districts. He moreover demanded special information about stocks of industrial goods. He was particularly interested about the stocks of industrial goods in the towns. He demanded information about the progress of the grain collections and about the grain mobilization stocks. ... After this I had a number of periodical meetings with Scheffer. I transmitted information to the German Intelligence Service, and through him received instructions from the latter about the organization of wrecking work. I had an especially long conversation with Scheffer on the organization of wrecking work in the sphere of grain collections and grain supplies. The chief task assigned to me by the German Intelligence Service at that time was to arrange to spoil grain within the country. ... These commissions that Scheffer gave me I carried out. Then Scheffer left the Soviet Union. Before his departure he told me that in view of the danger of exposure he would have to leave for Germany, but that the German Intelligence Service would not fail to establish connections with me."

The Military Collegium of the Soviet Supreme Court sentenced Mikhail Chernov to be shot for the espionage and wrecking activities he carried out under instructions from Paul Scheffer and other German agents. The Russian traitor was executed along with a number of other fifth columnists. Joseph E. Davies, former Ambassador to the Soviet Union, who was present at the trial of Chernov and his fellow-conspirators, writes in the December, 1941, issue of the American magazine: "In the light of present facts, and after an examination of the record, there can be no doubt that those defendants were, directly or indirectly, in the employ of the German and Japanese High Commands."

(More)



Scheffer's Mysterious Work in U. S. Today

Paul Scheffer, who perhaps felt he had had a rather close call in the Soviet Union, recuperated for a while in Germany. Then again he ventured abroad, in the service of the Nazi regime. Three years ago he arrived in the United States. Since his arrival here, his activities have been shrouded in mystery. He has ample funds at his disposal and entertains lavishly, although he maintains contact with only a few select persons. Among his Nazi associates in this country, we can name Rudolf Mattfeldt in Washington, and Margret Boveri, August Halfeld and Herbert Gross in New York, all of whom are working with the Propaganda Ministry of the Third Reich.

Is Paul Scheffer, notorious Nazi, employed in the United States on a mission similar to that he carried out in the Soviet Union? It might be advisable for officials of the Department of Justice to ask Scheffer a few questions on this score. They can locate Herr Scheffer at a swank apartment at 227 East 57th Street (Apartment No. 3G), New York City.

* * * * *

BUCHKO LEAVES U. S.

We can report that Monsignor Ivan Buchko, first exposed as a Nazi-Ukrainian agent by The Hour on July 27, 1940, has been forced to leave this country. He was in cabin 62 on the "Marquis de Camillas," when she sailed for Lisbon from New York City on Thursday, November 6.

On the eve of the outbreak of the war, Buchko, a key representative of the Nazi-controlled OUN (Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists), set out from Poland and went directly to South America. As a liaison man for the Provid, fascist Ukrainian headquarters in Berlin, he had the assignment of coordinating Nazi-Ukrainian activities in the Western Hemisphere. He arrived in the United States during the summer of 1940 and set up his headquarters at the Ukrainian Catholic Parish at 22 East 7th Street, New York City. He immediately established contact with Luke Myshuha, editor of the pro-Nazi Ukrainian publication, Svoboda; Roman Lapiea, ODWU (Organization for the Rebirth of the Ukraine) journalist and editor of Trident; and other fascist Ukrainian-Americans.

When Buchko was requested to leave the United States, Michael Piznak, anti-democratic Ukrainian-American lawyer (see The Hour for June 21), traveled to Washington to intercede for the Nazi priest. He declared that Buchko was being persecuted by "The Hour, a bolshevik publication." The authorities, who were well acquainted with the facts about Buchko, refused to allow him to remain in this country. His departure is a serious blow to the Nazi-Ukrainian Fifth Column in the United States. (See The Hour for August 10, September 14 and 21, 1940, and May 3, 1941 for further facts on Buchko.)

* * * * *

WORD FROM MARKAN

The Hour has received from Maria Markan, Metropolitan opera star, a letter which states in part;

"With reference to the article which appeared in THE HOUR on November 1, 1941 under the headline 'Maria Markan, Opera Star and Nazi "Favorite" in New York,' I wish to give you the following information.

"I have never met nor had any connection whatsoever with the Nazi Officials Goering, Himmler, Emmy Sonneman Goering, Quisling Or the Icelandic Artist, Gudmundur Einarsson. The only person named in your article that I have met, seen or spoken to is Dr. Burchardt. I met him in Germany in 1935, several years after I had started my career. He asked me to pose for a photograph in Icelandic National Costume to be used in his book on Iceland. I saw him three or four times in all and since 1935 have not seen or had anything to do with this person. ... I worked and studied in Germany from 1934-1938 and left there in the summer of 1938 because of my antipathy to the Nazi regime. I have never received Opera engagements in any land because of political influence."

(Signed) Maria Markan

* * * * *

RAO INQUIRY

On November 23 the New York Post carried the report that Attorney General Biddle has begun an investigation of Paul P. Rao, Assistant U. S. Attorney in New York, and unsuccessful candidate for the State Supreme Court in the November 4 elections. According to the Post, "The inquiry will be completed about the end of next week. If the campaign charges against Rao (that he practised law on the side while holding his Federal job and was tied up with Nazi-Fascist organizations) are substantiated, Biddle will ask for his resignation."

On June 14, The Hour published the first story on Paul P. Rao's fascist connections. We revealed that a close relationship existed between the fascist Italian publisher Generoso Pope, and the recently appointed Assistant U. S. Attorney-General Rao; that Rao had written a letter to the Italian agent Domenico Trombetta, urging readers of his fascist violently anti-Semitic publication, Il Grido della Stirpe ("Cry of the Race"), to "follow the leadership of Mr. Generoso Pope"; and that Rao's law firm drew up the original incorporation papers for the Deutsche Weckruf und Beobachter, official organ of the German-American Bund.